

**Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, 02.18.15**  
**Town Hall Memorial Conference Room**  
**7:00pm**

Attendees: Jackie Flood, Christine Lavoie, Dan Ricker, Rick Greenier – MYA, Maureen Hall - Senior Citizens Club, Michelle Cushman, Laura Jaynes and Shannon Barnes – School Board (arrived at 7:05pm)  
Parks and Recreation Director: Matt Casparius

Absent:

Excused Absent: Dan Dwyer – Town Council and Chris Christensen

Public: none

Start time: 7:02pm

1 – Open Meeting/Introduction

2 – Approval of minutes from January 21st, 2015

- Maureen Hall made the correction under Seniors Section it's St Patrick's Show not Dance
- Shannon Barnes made the correction to add School Board to her name and Town Council to Dan Dwyer in the Attendance section at the top of the minutes going forward to match MYA and Senior Club
- Shannon Barnes made the motion to accept the January Meeting Minutes as amended
- Christine Lavoie 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 8-0-0 to accept minutes

3 – New Business

a. Merrimack Girl Scouts – Request to sell cookies at Watson Park

- Girl Scout Representative wasn't able to attend so Matt Casparius explained the following request from them:
  - i. Sell girl scout cookies at Watson Park for 13 Saturday's
    - 1. March 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29
    - 2. April 4, 5, 11, 12
- Maureen Hall made the motion to accept the request for the Girl Scouts to sell cookies at Watson Park
- Shannon Barnes 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 8-0-0

b. Update from Town Center Committee

- Jackie Flood explained she spoke with Lelia Mellen from National Park Service and said there was a grant administered through the National Park Service to promote park use. This grant could be used for an Art in the Park event
- This would be in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Committee

- There would need to have a Sub Committee for this in place for next year to discuss possibilities with the grant
- Matt Casparius asked about grant money and Jackie Flood explained that the DPW received a grant to \$400,000 for bridge and walkway work at the Sluiceway Project

#### 4 – Old Business

- Update from the Friends of the Merrimack Dog Park
  - Matt Casparius said there were no new money collected or spend in the last month so the balance is still \$17, 890.28
  - Next Fund Raiser is the Dog License Renal
  - Christine Lavoie said the Facebook following has increased by 20 more followers
  - Doggie Play Dates are going very well

#### 5 – Director's Report - Matt Casparius

- Budget Update
  - Town Council made the following changes to the submitted budget:
    - Eliminated the Skateboard Park Attendant but the \$7,000 stays with the Parks and Rec and will be used to fix things with one item could be a camera system at the park
      - Dawn to Dusk are going to be the proposed hours
    - Additional \$25,000 allocated for Wasserman Park for repairs
  - Shannon Barnes asked if there could be money allocated for O’Gara Park basketball court maintenance
- Program Events
  - Report on Job Fair
    - First time hosting the Job Fair and it was a small event but at least 40 people attended with 7 or 8 businesses
  - Winter Carnival Coming Up
    - Saturday February 21, 2015 from 12pm – 3pm
    - Volunteers needed
  - Summer Hiring
    - 80 - 85% fully hired for the summer
    - Applications for councilors from the Job Fair
  - Spring Park Reviews are still on hold due to the weather new ideas for how to handle them
  - July is official Parks and Recreation Month and Matt Casparius talked about holding different events during one week
  - Disc Golf Project is still under review
  - Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 28, 2015

#### 6 – Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
  - Installation Banquet on February 14<sup>th</sup> was a success
  - March 11<sup>th</sup> – Indian Head Resort Event
  - March 25<sup>th</sup> - bus to Foxwoods

- April 21<sup>st</sup> – Neil Sedaka Concert
- April 29<sup>th</sup> – Newport Playhouse event is sold out
- 230 members
- b. MYA - Rick Greenier
  - Wrestling and basketball are still in session
  - Softball, baseball, soccer and lacrosse are in sign up right now
  - March 12<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting
- c. Town Council –Dan Dwyer - absent
- d. School Board - Shannon Barnes
  - March 4<sup>th</sup> is their deliverable session for the budget
  - June 21<sup>st</sup> is tentative last day of school (this is subject to the weather)

7 – Comments from the Public - was nothing

8 – Comments from the Committee – was nothing

- Matt Casparius said town launched their own website

9 – Next Meeting Date/Time:

- 03.18.15

10 – Adjourn at 7:59pm

- Shannon Barnes made the motion to adjourn at 7:59pm
- Rick Greenier 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 8-0-0

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Cushman